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## Thailand

### Grain and Feed

### Weekly Rice Price Update

**2005**

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**Report Highlights:**

Export prices increased slightly in line with the strengthening Thai Baht. Meanwhile, domestic prices remained high.

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Includes PSD Changes: No  
Includes Trade Matrix: No  
Unscheduled Report  
Bangkok [TH1]  
[TH]

**Indicative Prices (Week Ending Feb. 7):**

Thailand: Export (FOB) Prices for various grades of rice (USD/M.T.)									
	Exporter Observations							Period Avg.	
	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	CUR.	PRV.
F WR 100 B	452	435	450	459	435	440	420	442	441
WR 100 B	297	295	295	297	297	298	292	296	295
PB 5%	292	288	295	297	293	300	282	292	291
WR 5%	292	290	290	292	292	292	287	291	290
WR 10%	290	285	285	289	290	290	282	287	286
WR 15%	283	280	280	287	286	286	277	283	282
WR 25%	272	269	268	284	266	269	272	271	271
WR 35%	269	265	-	281	264	267	267	269	268
A 1 SUP	237	231	-	236	234	233	232	234	233
A 1 SPEC	234	230	-	233	232	-	230	232	231
Source: Average actual prices received from exporters									

**Market Tone**

Export prices for most grades of rice increased slightly due to the strengthening of the Thai Baht. Trade source reported that the current quotations were based on 38.0 Baht/US\$, as compared to around 38.4 Baht/US\$ in the previous week. Meanwhile, domestic prices remained high due to the aggressive government intervention program. Also, the second crop production is reportedly expected to be less than 4.0 million tons of paddy, as compared to an annual production of around 5-6 million tons over the past five years. However, foreign demand for Thai white rice remained soft due to relatively cheaper Vietnamese rice by about US\$ 30/MT. Most current shipments were mainly for the pending shipments of the previous year's contracts. Unlike white rice, Thai parboiled rice reportedly attracted foreign buyers, as the price difference between Thai and Indian parboiled rice narrowed down because Indian parboiled rice was reportedly offered close to Thai rice.

The following are the reported rice exports (as is basis):

WEEK ENDING	QUANTITY	4-WK AVG	YEAR TO DATE	YEAR AGO
	(MT)	(MT)	(TMT)	(TMT)
DEC 26	106,103	128,616	7,775	5,177
DEC 31	88,510	-	7,863	5,299
JAN 2	3,045	-	3	5
JAN 9	121,108	-	124	76
JAN 16	169,028	-	293	193
JAN 23	120,044	-	413	263
JAN 30	134,431	136,153	548	362
FEB 6	137,042	140,136	685	477

*Note on data: Export figures since March 22, 2002, do not include fragrant rice. The authority to report fragrant rice exports was moved from the Thai Board of Trade to the Ministry of Commerce's Office of Commodity Standards, which does not release official fragrant rice export data. FAS/BKK will report only official export numbers from the Board of Trade for non-fragrant and from the Office of Commodity Standards for fragrant rice when available, but the reader should bear in mind the difference between the data.*

Unofficial exports (excluding fragrant rice) for Jan. 31 – Feb. 6 totaled 137,042 tons, up 2,611 tons from the previous week's total and down 3,095 tons from the four-week moving average of 140,136 tons. Exports during Jan. 1 – Feb. 6, 2005 amounted to 684,698 tons, as compared with 476,643 tons in the previous year.

According to the Department of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Commerce, total rice exports (including fragrant rice) during Jan. 1-26, 2005, amounted to 642,154 tons, up 48 percent from 435,255 tons in the previous year.

### Weekly Rice Sales

Private registered rice export sales for the period of Jan. 17-21, Jan. 24-28, and Jan. 31 – Feb. 4, 2005 are as follows:

Movement (MT)	Jan. 17-21	Jan. 24-28	Jan. 31 – Feb. 4
weekly sales	157,190	159,262	86,213
4 week sum	-	639,616	536,192
4 week mov. avg.	-	159,904	134,048
Total weekly sales	480,354	639,616	725,829

End of Report.